

NID 81

January 28, 1981

EAST GERMANY: Increased Concern Over Poland

East German leaders are pessimistic about the course of events in Poland and have become more critical in private of the Polish regime.

One high-level official complained that the Polish leaders have consistently underestimated their problems and still lack a clear idea of how to bring the situation under control. He did not expect that the present Polish party leadership could resolve the current difficulties.

Although the East Germans have given public support to the Polish leaders since the Warsaw Pact summit last month, they probably have never had much confidence in the Kania regime.

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East German alarm at Solidarity's latest challenge is reflected in increased media coverage this week. The press compared the current labor crisis to the Nazi occupation of Poland, suggesting that forceful counter-measures may be needed to "liberate" Poland.

[REDACTED] contacts among lower and middle-level party members reveal concern that time is running out for the Polish regime.

Approved for Release
Date AUG 1999

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H2B